

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 H-02 INR-07 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SAB-01 /045 W

----- 054030

R 040140Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4390

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STADIS //

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

AS AUTHORIZED BY DEPARTMENT I ISSUED FOLLOWING TEXT THIS
EVENING FOR USE BY LOCAL MEDIA:

1. "I HAVE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO ISSUE CONCERNING THE
PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS AND THE SPECULATION WHICH I
UNDERSTAND MAY APPEAR IN SOME AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS TOMORROW,
TO THE EFFECT THAT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS LOST INTEREST IN
CONCLUDING A TREATY WITH PANAMA THIS YEAR.

2. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHEN A DRAFT TREATY WILL BE
COMPLETED. DURING THE LAST YEAR, THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT
ADVANCES ON IMPORTANT ISSUES; THESE INCLUDE JURISDICTION,
ADMINISTRATION OF THE CANAL, AND CONCEPTUAL ASPECTS ON THE
PROTECTION AND DEFENSE OF THE CANAL. BUT IT IS STILL NECESSARY
TO NEGOTIATE OTHER FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES, AMONG THEM THE POSSIBLE
EXPANSION OF THE CANAL, THE DURATION OF THE NEW TREATY, AND
THE DISTRIBUTION OF LANDS AND WATERS. THE NEGOTIATORS OF BOTH
COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED TO PROCEED CAREFULLY AND
MATHODICALLY, BUT WITH ALL DELIBERATE SPEED AS THEY MOVE
FORWARD IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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3. NO ARTIFICIAL TIME LIMIT FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN SET.

BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE, OF COURSE, HOPEFUL THAT THEY WILL BE
ABLE TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATIONS AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE".
JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS RELEASES, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PANAMA03975
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750232-0084
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750783/aaaacwfm.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS AS AUTHORIZED BY DEPARTMENT I ISSUED FOLLOWING TEXT THIS
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006